

## United States Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District P.O. Box 1890 Wilmington, North Carolina 28402-1890

## **News Release**

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September 28,2000 NR 09 – 28 - 00

For Release: Immediately

## Corps plans public input sessions on recreational lake use

WILMINGTON, North Carolina, September 28—On 24-26 October, the US Army Corps of Engineers will hold several public input sessions to present findings and gather public comments on a study of boating use patterns at Falls Lake, B. Everett Jordan Lake, and the Nutbush Arm of John H. Kerr Lake. During the workshops, Corps managers and partners from the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation and Wildlife Resources Commission will be on hand to explain lake use proposals based on the studies. Corps staff will be available to collect comments from the public.

The Corps, through Colorado State University and North Carolina State University, conducted surveys during the summer of 1999. The surveys gathered information from lake visitors about their recreation experience. During the survey, interviewers spoke with boaters at public launch ramps as they left the lakes. Boaters using marinas at all three lakes and private docks at Kerr Lake received mail-back surveys.

The four main areas of interest and concerns expressed by boaters were:

- · Preserving low-density conditions on the lake
- Crowding and conflicting use issues
- Personal watercraft
- Potential facility improvements

The Corps and its agency partners met in June this year, and came up with proposals based on the surveys. Some actions identified by the June work group included establishing "quiet coves" or "no wake" zones, making improvements to services and facilities at existing boat ramps, and protecting the natural appearance of the shorelines.

The information in the surveys, and the information gathered at these sessions, will be a key component in planning decisions affecting the lakes in years to come.

The schedule for the public input sessions is as follows:

October 24<sup>th</sup> 6 to 9 p.m. FALLS LAKE Bay Leaf Baptist Church, Family Life Center 12200 Bay Leaf Church Road Raleigh, NC 27614

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 6 to 9 p.m. JORDAN LAKE Agricultural Building Auditorium 45 South Street October 26<sup>th</sup> 6 to 9 p.m. KERR LAKE Satterwhite Point Community Bldg Glass House Road, Satterwhite Pt. Kerr Lake State Recreation Area Vance County, NC

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